Women Police Stations in India — Staggered Roll-Out Across 63 Cities Raised Reports of Crimes Against Women by 29%, Without a Detectable Change in Femicide

Gender Equality · Good practice · India

Quality score: 85/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

India's women police stations, first opened in Kerala in 1973, were studied across 73 cities in 2005–13 (63 opened stations). Openings raised police reports of crimes against women by 29%, driven by domestic violence, with no change in femicide: more reporting, not more violence.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	2/3
Impact on gender equality	1/1
Effectiveness	1/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	1/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	1/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-22

State police forces of India (All-Women / Mahila Police Stations) — accessed 2026-11-22

Amaral, Bhalotra & Prakash (2021), IZA DP 14250 — accessed 2026-11-22

Earlier working-paper version (Boston University, 2019) — accessed 2026-11-22

Kerala Police — Kozhikode City Vanitha Police Station — accessed 2026-11-22

World Economic Forum — summary of the findings — accessed 2026-11-22

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